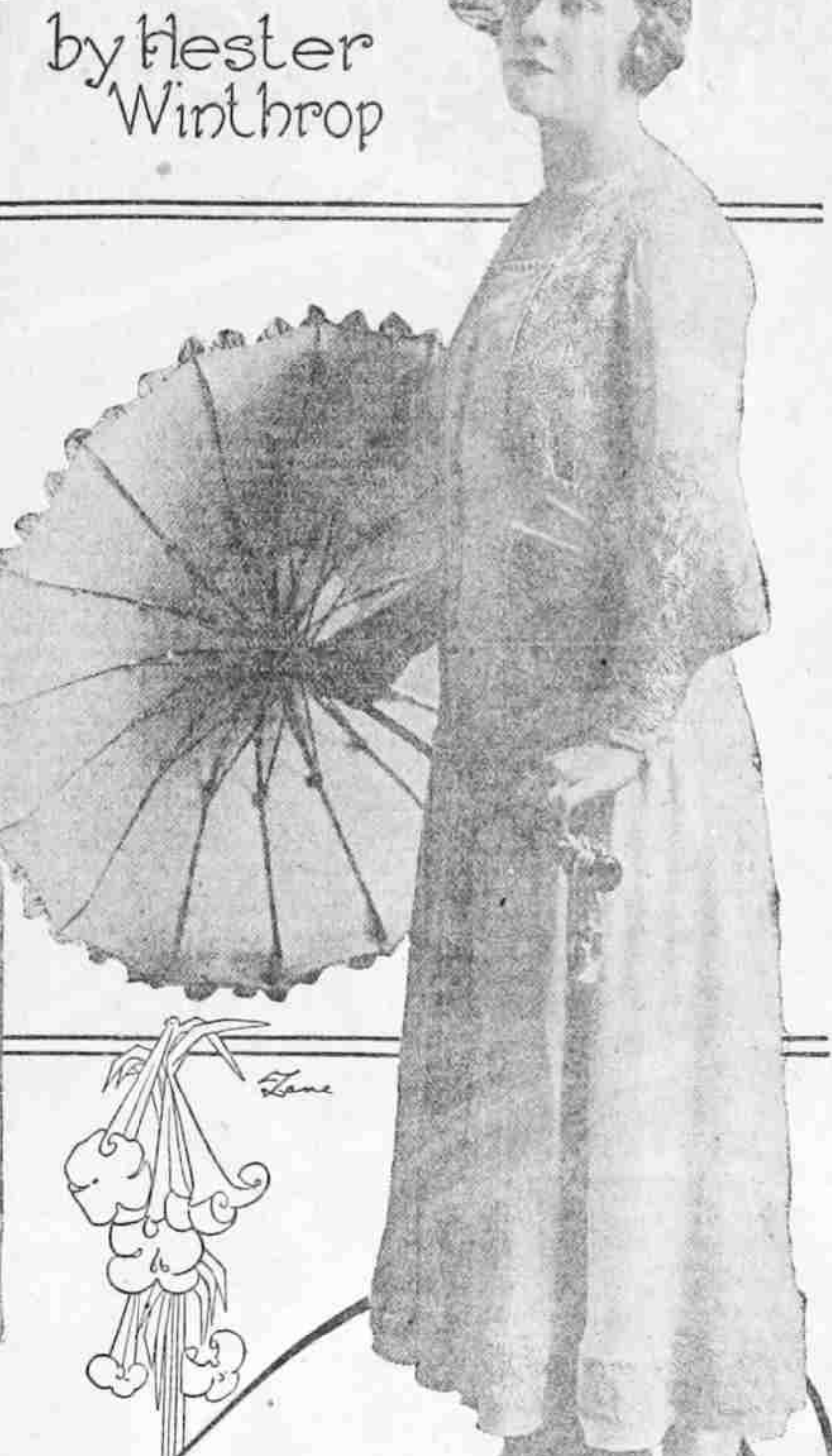


ARE GRACEFUL

by Hester  
Winthrop



Silk Frocks of Soiree in Orchid Shade  
with Trimming of Velvet Ribbons  
and Little Pearl Buckles - and the  
New Barrel Drapery over the Hips

Coquettish Lines and Soft Materials Make Spring Frocks Youthful and Becoming -- Much Soutache Used in Solid Trimming Motifs -- Shorter Sleeves Says Paris, On Dressy Costumes.

THE new frocks are so enchanting that every woman who can handle a pair of cutting shears is longing to get to work and make half a dozen along the lines of models exhibited in the shops. And indeed, for a clever home-dressmaker, the new frocks are not hard to copy. The silks are very simple, the chief elaboration being in the trimming. But the phrase "well-placed" has a good deal of significance, for one must study the lines of one's trimming motifs very carefully. They must flow harmoniously with the lines of the frock and not be placed, helter-skelter, in any old place. It is like that; a trimming be handsome in itself; unless it blends harmoniously with the costume, it might much better be left off the costume altogether.

All the models pictured are of the dressmaker's type, for afternoon wear is in or out of date. The young woman needs several such frocks about this time of the year. There are the Easter weddings, club receptions and breakfasts and the round of teas and afternoon bridge parties that al-

ways occur just after Easter. Fly the woman who has not a fresh, new modish frock in which to appear on such occasions when everyone will be arrayed as the lilies of the field in spring gala attire.

**Soft Silks Liked Best By Paris.**

The silk taffetas that were in vogue last spring have no place in this season's program. All the spring silks are soft, shimmering and lustrous and graceful folds and draperies are preferred to flounces or other stiff effects. Solree silk is the silk especially in demand, and lovely shades are the new shades. Facile matinee is liked for street frocks, surahs and crepe de chine appear in stunning sport frocks and Paris is using quite a good deal of soft satin meteor as a background for bead and soutache embroideries. Right here one must admit the "soutache" craze is growing, that is, soutache-embroidered is so decorated, but soutache trimming is applied in masses on the frock—never in scattered, straying effects as used to be the case when soutache was the

ways occur just after Easter. Fly the dragon who has not a fresh, new model, but in which to appear on such occasions, when everyone will be arrayed as the lilies of the field in spring gala attire.

**Soft Silks Liked Best By Paris.**

The stiff taffetas that were in vogue last spring have no place in this season's program. All the spring silks are soft, shimmering and lustrous and graceful folds and draperies are preferred to flounces or other stiff effects. Soiree silk is the silk especially in vogue and lovely indeed are the new shades. Facile matinee frocks for street frocks, surahs and crepe de chine appear in stunning sport frocks and Paris is using quite a good deal of soft satin meter as a background for bead and soutache embroideries. Right here one must admit the soutache craze. Everything is to be soutache-embroidered in so decorated, but soutache trimming is applied in masses on the frock—never in scattered, straying effects as used to be the case when soutache was the

fashion, years ago. There are bands of soutache embroidery, yokes, cuffs, pockets, panels and other sections of the costume covered entirely with the soutache, usually in self-tone, and the effect is undeniably rich and handsome.

The pale gray frock pictured is an excellent example of the way soutache trimming is being treated just now. In this frock almost the whole bodice and skirt are trimmed with a wide, black band at the hem, are covered with close soutaching in self-tone; both frock and soutache being in a lovely, pale gray tint which is matched by the silk stockings. The smart little hat of gold lace has a pearl bead ornament and is trimmed with a pale gray band. The costume is put together in a delicate, mauve shade, that harmonizes with the gray frock. This costume has the Mayenne bodice, loose yet clinging and the sloping belt which crosses and comes around to the front, to be knotted at the hips, details which are essential enough to make the frock individual on its own merits. These fashions on so many of the ready-to-wear frocks, are commendable, in that they make it possible to adjust

General lines to individual figures, and almost any woman may be fitted very easily. The sleeves are particularly smart, with their pointed bulge below the elbow—and this sort of sleeve shows off the soutache pattern very well indeed. Soutache should always be stitched to the frock with silk thread, for a cheap thread will fade in the sunlight and make a jarring note in the otherwise handsome frock. All costumes of this dainty and delicate character should be made with silk thread, not even in the seams and other hidden details, and the woman who desires to get the most out of her frocks will not consider buying a modal sewed with cheap thread. It never pays in the long run.

**The Colors Of Spring.**

Gray seems as popular as ever this season and the new grays have a pinkish tinge that is entrancing. There is asparagus gray, too, a greenish gray just off the white. Oyster gray and silver gray are two other lovely shades for gowns of distinction. Red is undoubtedly a spring color this year and the brightest shades are combined

A white Mohair  
and Worsted  
Frock Sleeves  
Buttoned in  
Coat Fashion, the  
Belt Drawing in  
the Loose Bodice at  
Back and Sides

Paris is Daft  
Over Little  
Jackets -  
And here is  
The New  
Quilted  
Pelticost

frocked maid carries one of the new "swagger-sticks"—an elongated cane of polished white wood with a handle of red glass.

**Emphasis Put On The Sleeve.**  
An interesting sleeve is shown in the silk frock which has the new barrel drapery over the hips. The sleeve is interesting because there is so little of it. Every woman who sees it will exclaim: "Can it be that we are to

will notice that there is no sign of a collar on this frock, the white sateen mohair and worsted frock, or the frock with a little silk bolero. The last-named frock is from Paquin and is a combination of soldier blue faille matinee silk and white lace. The bolero bags over a knotted sash which is slipped through the slashed side of the jacket. And here is the new quilted skirt—the very last whimsey of Paris.

## Nothing Like a Spencer for Chilly Mornings

THE woman who likes to wear fresh white tub blouses about the house, but whose house is too cool for comfort unless arms and shoulders are better protected than by linen or madras, should have a knitted Spencer to slip on under the blouse. The knitted Spencer will not be bulky, if made of fine worsted; and will give her a much neater appearance than the sweater which so many women draw on when the temperature indoors is low. However, if the climate is such that the sweater may be of the golf course or tennis court, it always has a bedraggled look, worn about the house mornings in company with an apron. It suggests to the friend who happens to drop in, that the woman is about to be inadequately heated or one is too pressed by poverty to burn the proper amount of coal in the furnace. The maid who works about in a print dress will look much neater and more attractive, also, if she keeps warm with a Spencer under her bodice than if she goes about the house wrapped in a knitted sweater—and the sweaters that housemaids affect are nearly always a dingy gray in color and most depressing to look at. Spencers, which used to be an indispensable article of feminine wardrobes, are very handy little garments indeed—particularly if one lives in the suburbs where houses are apt to be colder than in town. They are also very handy at any time when it is too warm for furnace heat yet not warm enough for summer airs to come in at the windows. There is nothing like the trim and tidy Spencer, worn beneath the house dress, to make the garments seem warm without long sleeves and as desired, the fronts may be crossed and tied with ribbon at the back, giving a smooth line over the bust and beneath the shirtwaist.

*The Gentle Art of Carrying  
a Cane Correctly*

**D**O you know how to carry a swagger-stick? Of course, you know that a swagger-stick is the latest decree of Fashion and that the fashionable swagger-stick in common, everyday parlance is just a cane. If you think it is easy enough to carry a cane, ask your young sophomore cousin who has just acquired his first cane, and if he is inclined to be honest, he will consider that you are the only one with the wit, refinement and effort down the youthful masculine person acquire the gentle art of cane-carrying. A boy with his first cane feels all cane—and if you cannot imagine what this means, supply yourself with one of the new swagger-sticks and take it with you tomorrow on your afternoon stroll down the avenue.

Some such problems as these will immediately present themselves: Which hand to carry it in? What to do with your handbag? What to do with the swagger-stick when you lift your skirt to cross a gutter, when you pay your railroad fare, when you enter a conveyance, when you enter a store to buy ice cream soda? Does one hold the swagger-stick up against a chair or a shop-counter while the hands are engaged (and if one does it will probably fall with a clatter and have to be retrieved), or does one slip it jauntily under one's arm (in which case it is more than likely to hit the elderly lady behind one a disastrous blow)? What are you to do with it when you sit down? Of course, it may not be held between the knees like the masculine stick, but equally of course its place is not on the floor behind your chair—someone would be sure to step on it. If it is placed across your knees, it ends will stick out and cause tripping accidents to unwary passers-by.

Oh, do not for a moment believe that you can set forth jauntily with a swagger-stick and wield it with a light and inconsequent Beau Brummel air without hours of practice in the secret fastnesses of your chamber, with a full length mirror to aid and abet your efforts!

In the first place, in order to carry a swagger-stick jauntily, you must possess grace. Only a graceful woman can manage a swagger-stick correctly—that is, pleasingly—and together with the natural grace of body must go a certain ease and assurance of personality. The clumsy woman or the timid woman lacking self assurance will never handle the light stick with anything but awkwardness. And I beg of you—I implore you—do not be so much as considering eyeing a man with a swagger-stick if you are stout! In the hands of a fat woman, and especially a short fat woman the swagger-stick can be nothing less than tragic. Slenderness, liteness, suppleness, alertness of poise—these are the things that are essential; and with them must go smartness and know-

are you to do with it when you sit down?" Of course, it may not be held steady between the knees like the masculine stick; and, equally of course its place is not on the seat of a woman's chair—someone would be sure to notice it. If it is placed across your knees, it will end up sticking out and causing tripping accidents to unwary passers-by.

Oh, do not for a moment believe that you can set forth jauntily with a swagger-stick and wield it with a light and inconsequent Beau Brummel air without hours of practice in the secret fastnesses of your chamber with a full length mirror to aid and abet your efforts!

In the place, in order to carry a swagger-stick tactlessly, you must possess grace. Only a graceful woman can manage a swagger-stick correctly—that is, pleasingly—and together with the natural grace of body must go a certain ease and assurance of personality. The clumsy woman or the timid woman lacking self-assurance will never handle the light stick with anything but awkwardness. And I beg of you—I implore you—do not carry such a considering eye at a fellow creature, especially if you are a stout! In the hands of a fat woman and especially a short fat woman the swagger-stick can be nothing less than tragic. Slenderness, liteness, suppleness, alertness of poise—these are the things that are essential; and without them must go smartness and know-

ingness of costume. Just fancy a swagger-stick with a frilly be-shashed straw-ribbon, or an evening wrap! It must accompany the faulted, stored costume possessed of some dash, and the more dash and *verve* in the costume, the more it will become the dashing swagger-stick.

Two of the illustrations show the sort of tailored clothes that properly accompany these gay little sticks—one costume a sport frock of woolen jersey with the new barrel pockets and double strap patent leather belt; the other costume a late Paris model in the new coat-dress style, made of beige mohair and worsed fabric. The latter strongly suggests of the Directoré about this costume (and you will remember that it was during the Directoré period that canes were carried by women of fashion.) The high stock collar and the and the white linen cuffs peeping in masculine semblance below the coat sleeves, together with the rigid lines of the small hands are clever details that accord with the jaunty masculine quality of the swagger-stick.

But there is another quality that the cane will carry with it—press—and that is dignity. The Directoré cane, very long and often carried like a staff was stately rather than jaunty; and there are long swagger-sticks in white enamel or in black polished wood with handsome parasol-like handles, that are designed to accompany dainty afternoon costumes



to her little nose. In this instance, as you see, the white swagger-stick accompanies a white afternoon frock and picture hat; but even so, there is a tailored suggestion in the frock

When the swager-stick is carried in one hand, it should be grasped a little below the middle and should be carried very lightly as the maid in the tailored frock is carrying her stick. Imagine your swager-stick is a fairy-wand and you as the fairy, and the idea will help you carry the stick gracefully. There are innumerable pretty poses when the stick is held in both hands. The swager-stick is shown by the maid in the Directorate coat-dress. Half an hour spent before a mirror will show you any number of pretty ways to hold the stick when standing or seated and you will soon learn to remember these poses.

A DESK SET IN DUTCH SILVER DESIGN

**E**VEN the tiniest piece of genuine Dutch silver is treasured by the housewife who knows the value of this quaint, hammered silverware. The little jugs and flagons have delightful shapes and there are diminutive "chests" of the silver to stand on the living room table and hold matches, cigarettes and keys for the playing cards. A desk set in Dutch silver has a look of massive elegance which suits well the library or living room furnished in dark oak. Silver is never at its best with mahogany except in the dining room. The desk set has six pieces: rack for stationery, inkwell and tray, pen-tray, calendar, stamp-box and blotter and four corner sections for the desk blotter come in

matching pattern—a quaint Dutch design with little figures in group effects.

**A PORTABLE DRESS CLOSET FOR THE TRAVELER.**

**I**T may be hung up in a closetless bedroom and will keep dainty frocks free from dust. There is a wire frame at the top and underneath a rod to hold garment hangers. From the frame falls a long cretonne curtain which runs along a rod in front and may be drawn close, or pushed back. The cretonne curtain folds up around the wire frame and the closet may be tucked into a trunk tray or even into a week-end suit case.

**There Are Innumerable Graceful Poses Which The New Swagger-Stick Makes Possible, And The Girl Of The Moment Is Learning All Of Them.**

